

COPY.

COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the
year 1940.

To the Coalville Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit a report respecting the health and sanitary condition of the Urban District for the year 1940.

The report follows the instructions contained in Circular 2314, dated the 26th March, 1941, from the Ministry of Health, respecting the contents and arrangement of the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health. This Circular refers to Circular 2067, dated 19th July, 1940, and this report is prepared on the lines indicated therein. The present report is, therefore, in many respects an interim one, but an attempt has been made to give as full an account of certain branches of the work as in previous years.

During the year, your Medical Officer of Health gave much time to work in connection with Air Raid Precautions, whilst your Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also Chief Billeting Officer, throughout almost the whole year, devoted almost his whole time to work in connection with billeting. The result of this has been that much sanitary work which ordinarily would have received attention could not have that attention which your staff would have liked to have given.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area.(in acres) 6,453.
Population.(1931 census) 21,880.
Population. 23,870.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940), according
to Rate Books. 6,555.
Rateable Value. £99,854.
Sum represented by a penny rate. £395.

The chief industries are coalmining, brickmaking, engineering, elastic web and hosiery manufacture, quarrying stone for macadam, whilst a number are employed in agriculture. The principal industry is coalmining, which, apart from the extra liability to injury, does not appear to exercise any deleterious influence upon the general health.

Vital Statistics.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>For I.M.</u>		<u>For B.R.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Legitimate.	183	192	182	190
Illegitimate.	3	4	3	3
Total.	186	196	185	193

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident
population mid-1940. 15.9

<u>Still Births.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
		<u>II</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>
Legitimate.				
Illegitimate.		1	0	1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 30.7

Deaths.	Total.	M.	F.
	332	185	147

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population. 14.0

Deaths from puerperal causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.
Puerperal sepsis.	0	0
Other maternal causes.	0	0
Total	0	0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births.	57
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	56
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	142.8
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	32
" " Measles (all ages)	1
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Death rate per 1,000 live births diarrhoea and enteritis (under 2)	2.6

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

There have been no changes in laboratory facilities, ambulance facilities, nursing in the home, and hospital facilities.

A statistical return of the work performed in the County Laboratory is appended. The total number of examinations was 8,614, and of this number 270 examinations were made for this Area.

Swabs for diphtheria.	133
Milk examinations (bacteriological).	49
Sewage and water analyses.	36
Sputa for T.B.	33
Urine (general and bacteriological).	5
Urine for T.B.	3
Hair for ringworm.	1
Blood for Wassermann test.	4
Milk for fat content.	2
Faeces for B.Typhosus.	3
Miscellaneous.	1

270

In addition to the above 22 samples of milk were submitted to Cambridge University Laboratory for T.B. examination.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The sources of the public water supply are the

same as indicated in previous reports.

27 samples of town water were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, with the following results:-

Whitwick. Filtered		Ellistown. Filtered		Broom Leys P.Stat. and Forest Rock Reservoir.	From taps in the District.
Raw	and Chlorinated	Raw	and Chlorinated		
4-	4 -	4 -	4 - 1 doubtful.	6 - 1 doubtful.	3 -

Chemical analysis showed that the water was satisfactory.

No new water main was laid during the year.

13 houses formerly drawing water from private wells were connected to the town mains during the year, in addition to 11 connections to newly erected houses.

2 samples of water from private wells were submitted for analysis and were found to be satisfactory.

4 private wells were closed during the year.

The amount of water pumped during 1940 was 213,321,000 gallons, an increase of 19,227,000 gallons on the amount pumped during 1939.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There were no extensions during the year. There are parts of the district served with defective sewers which overflow during periods of wet weather, particularly in the Ashby Road (Snibston), Broom Leys and Hugglescote areas, and the main outfall from Whitwick and North High Level from Town centre. Your Council has been made aware of these conditions by the Surveyor from time to time during the last 4 years.

No extensions were made at either of the Sewage Disposal Works.

2 houses have been redrained and 19 have had extensions or alterations to existing drains.

Closet Accommodation.

The closet accommodation in the district at the end of 1940 was as follows:-

Water closets.	6,559
Privies with fixed receptacles.	259
" " moveable "	228

During the year 1 privy with fixed receptacle was abolished. New work accounted for an addition of 29 W.Cs.

Public Cleansing.

No change has been made in the methods adopted for the cleansing of the district during the year, and this work continues to be carried out satisfactorily.

The numbers of the various receptacles in use at the end of the year were:-

Dustbins. 6,319.
 Dry ashpits. 16.
 Middens. 195.

During the year the amount of refuse collected and disposed of was:-

Pail and midden refuse. 397 loads.
 Dustbin and dry ashpit refuse. 4313 "
 Market refuse. 47 "
 Slaughterhouse refuse. 40 " (for 3 months)

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The particulars given below are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this report.

Nature of Inspection.	Inspections.	Revisits.
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	8	27
Tents, Vans, etc.	2	-
Slaughterhouses (Meat)	227	-
Food premises.	9	-
Dairies and Cowsheds.	2	-
Offensive Trades.	-	-
Animal keeping.	1	-
Workshops etc.	-	12
Shops.	-	-
* Other premises.	91	18
	340	57

* Made up as follows -

San. conveniences. 1. Refuse collect. & dispoal. 2.
 C.L. houses. 2. Drains and drainage. 43.
 Overcrowding. 3. Miscellaneous. 11.
 Market Stalls. 2. Air Raid Shelters. 24.
 Verminous houses. 20.
 House measured. 1.

Premises disinfected after infect. disease. 190.
 Lots of bedding disinfected. 137.
 Milk samples for bact. examination. 24.
 do. T.B. examination. 22.
 Water samples (by San. Inspector). 2.
 Visits re Infectious disease. 179.
 Premises disinfested of vermin. 10.

NOTICES.

PRELIMINARY.	Housing.	Others.
Outstanding on 1st January.	67	130
Issued during year.	7	110
Complied with during year.	-	125
Statutory action necessary.	-	8
Outstanding on 31st December.	74	107

STATUTORY.	Housing.	Others.
Outstanding on 1st January.	12.	2.
Issued during year.	-	8.
Complied with during year.	-	-
Outstanding on 31st December.	12.	10.

SUMMARY ACTION.

No. of summonses issued.	No. of convictions obtained.
NIL.	NIL.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no privately owned Swimming Baths in the area.

The Public Swimming Baths have been closed since the outbreak of war, the building being used for Civil Defence purposes.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of the schools in the area is generally satisfactory.

It has not been necessary to resort to school closure on account of infectious disease.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

12 re-visits were made during the year.

Lists were submitted in respect of 11 outworkers.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Very little work was possible during the year under existing Housing legislation.

The influx of large numbers of evacuees, both children and adults, and of industrial workers, taxed housing accommodation severely, and it became necessary to put into temporary use some houses which had been closed prior to demolition.

Only one new case of statutory overcrowding was discovered, however, and three existing cases of overcrowding were abated during the year.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

There were on the Register at the end of 1940 -

Cowkeepers.	46.
Retail purveyors.	80.

It was only possible to carry out 2 inspections during the year.

24 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, as follows -

Pasteurised. 2.)
 Accredited. 3.) All satisfactory.
 Non-designated. 19! 15 satisfactory.
 2 grade II.
 2 grade III.

The standard of examination adopted is that laid down by the Milk (Special Designations) Order for Accredited Milk.

22 samples of milk were submitted for examination for T.B. and of these 1 was positive. As a result two cows were slaughtered, under the Order.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, 7 licences to retail "Tuberculin tested" milk and 1 to retail "Pasteurised" milk were granted.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

The 8 registered and 8 of the 9 licensed slaughter-houses in the area were closed early in January on the concentration of all trade slaughtering under the Ministry of Food at the Co-operative Society's premises in Ravenstone Rd. All animals for the Shephed Urban and Castle Donington Rural Districts are also slaughtered at this slaughterhouse, and proper accommodation and facilities are now becoming seriously restricted.

The position was aggravated by the storage on these premises of large quantities of imported meat under conditions to which serious exception was taken, and as a result other, more suitable, premises were obtained for this latter purpose.

Almost the whole of the animals slaughtered in the Regional slaughterhouse were inspected, but of the 112 pigs slaughtered by householders it was only possible to examine 6.

The results of these examinations are summarised below.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & lambs.	Pigs.	Total.
Number killed (if known)	1398	438	44	9277	1731	12888
Number inspected.	1371	435	44	9057	1625	12532
All Diseases except Tuberculosis						Total weight in lbs.
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	1	7	-	239
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned.	133	47	-	138	22	3253
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	9.70%	11.03%	2.27%	1.60%	1.35%	-
Tuberculosis Only.						
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	6	1	-	1	4553
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned.	121	68	2	-	126	8988
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	8.82%	17.01%	6.08%	-	7.84%	-

The following foodstuffs were also condemned during the year.

9 stone fillets cod and haddock.
 65½ lbs. Bacon.
 6 lbs. Tinned Pork.
 1584 lbs. Chitterlings.
 299 lbs. Imported Hind Quarter Beef.
 518 Chilled Eggs.
 2 Boxes Pears.
 61 Tins Pineapple.
 14 " Mixed Food.

(c) Adulteration, etc.

The County Council adminster these Acts and Regulations.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Table showing the total notifications received under age groups, and the deaths from infectious diseases under the same age groups.

NOTIFICATIONS.

	Total	under											
		1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-
Smallpox.													
Scarlet fever.	54		1	1	2	2	18	15	3	9	3		
Diphtheria.	77			2	3	3	26	18	15	6	2	2	
Puerperal Pyrexia.	2									2			
Pneumonia.	64	6	6	5	1	4	3	2	2	5	6	16	8
Erysipelas.	13	1						1	1	3	2	4	1
Ophthalmia	3	3											
Neonatorum.													
Cerebro-Spinal	33		2	6	2	2	6	1	2	5	4	2	1
Fever.													
Whooping Cough.	75	8	7	11	15	9	22	2					
Measles.	448	7	25	40	48	52	206	39	19	8	4		
Paratyphoid-B.	1							1					

DEATHS.

Smallpox.													
Scarlet Fever.													
Diphtheria.	6				1	1	3					1	
Puer. Pyrexia.													
Pneumonia.	16	5	2		1						1	2	5
Erysipelas.	1												1
Oph. Neon.													
Cerebro-Spinal	8			1			1	1		1	2	1	1
Fever.													
Whooping Cough.	2	1	1										
Measles.	1		1										

Table showing the monthly notifications.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Pneu- monia.	Erysi- pelas.	Oph. Neon.	Puer. Pyr.	C.S.F.	Wh- Cough	Measles	Par B.
January.	4	7	13	1	2			9	1	
February.	2	10	12	1			1	16	1	
March.	3	8	9	3		1	8	9	11	1
April.	4	5	4			1	5	7	27	
May.	5	10	3				5	4	77	
June.	7	12	4	1			8	2	189	
July.	7	7	3	2			1	5	35	
August.	2	3		2				3	23	
September.	10	8	2					2	13	
October.	3	2	2	3				3	2	
November.	5	2	6		1		3	4	7	
December.	2	2	6				2	11	57	
Totals.	54	77	64	13	3	2	33	75	448	1

2 cases of encephalitis lethargica were notified but were not confirmed.

DIPHTHERIA.

In the early part of the year, representations were again made to you of the urgency of providing facilities for the immunisation of children against diphtheria. Finally, it was agreed that such a scheme should be prepared, and before the middle of the year this was in full swing.

The help of all the local medical practitioners was enlisted, and the fee finally agreed upon was 3/6d per completed treatment. All requests for the treatment were accompanied by a statement by the parent or guardian as to the doctor by whom he wished the treatment to be carried out - usually the family doctor. Arrangements were made by this department for children to attend on agreed days and dates at the surgeries of the respective doctors. The material used was Alum Precipitated Toxoid, but as two doctors preferred to use T.A.F., arrangements were made accordingly, and although the second method involved three injections in place of the two required by the former method, the doctors using the second method agreed to accept the same fee as those using the two injection method. All material, syringes, and needles were supplied by this authority. Records were required to be kept by the doctors, and at the end of the course of treatment, a certificate of immunisation (for production when necessary) was given. No Schick was done at any stage.

The scheme worked exceptionally well and smoothly, largely due to the efforts of the Sanitary Inspector, who made all the appointments. Much help was received from the head teachers of all the schools in the Area in distributing forms of request, and in advocating the necessity for the treatment. To the doctors, to the teachers, and to the Sanitary Inspector, I wish to express my thanks for their invaluable help.

The number of applications received was 2,620, and of that number 2,569 completed treatment. Of these, 398 children under 5 years of age, and 2171 were between the ages of 5 and 14 years. It will be observed that 51 failed to complete treatment, but 13 of these had the first injection, whilst the remaining 38 failed to appear, although, of course, more than one attempt was made to secure their appearance. Of the estimated population under 5 years, 19.6% were immunised, and of the estimated population between 5 and 14 years, 47.7% were immunised. During the year 52 children under 15 years were notified as suffering from diphtheria, and of these 2 had been immunised under the scheme.

The above figures represent a substantial achievement, but much obviously remains to be done. The disease is most fatal if contracted below five years of age, so that it is of importance that attempts should be made to secure a substantial increase in the percentage of children under 5 years who have had the benefit of the treatment. Although the disease is less fatal after 5 years, it is nevertheless a most dangerous condition between five and fifteen years, so that the necessity of increasing the percentage immunised in the older age group is not by any means lessened. A wide field, therefore, still exists for the extension of the benefits of the scheme, but it is to be expected that progress will be slower in the future, as the children already immunised are probably those of the more enlightened parents. Considerable publicity and persuasion are likely to be necessary to secure the co-operation of most of the parents who have not yet availed themselves, on behalf of their children, of the facilities offered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and all deaths from the disease during the year.

Age period	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	1				1			
1-5			2	3	1			1
5-15			4	1	1			
15-25		2	3	2	1	5	1	
25-35	1	1	1	1		2	1	
35-45		1			1		1	
45-55	3			1	3		1	
55-65	1			1	4			
65.	1				1			1
Total.	7	4	10	9	13	7	4	2

Table showing causes of deaths,
and sex distribution of deaths in 1940.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	TOTAL.	M.	F.
All causes.	332	185	147
Diphtheria.	6	3	3
Typhoid Fever.			
Measles.	1		1
Influenza.	18	13	5
Whooping Cough.	2	1	1
Scarlet Fever.			
Enc. Lethargica.			
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	8	4	4
Respiratory Tuberculosis.	20	13	7
Other T.B. Diseases.	6	4	2
Syphilis.			
Cancer of buccal cavity:			
oesophagus(M) uterus (F))	4	1	3
Cancer of stomach & duoden.	7	5	2
Cancer of breast.	2	0	2
Cancer of all other sites.	19	14	5

Table contd:

Cause of death.	Total.	M.	F.
Diabetes.	1		1
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	36	17	19
Heart Disease.	63	26	37
Other Circulatory Diseases.	2	1	1
Bronchitis.	19	11	8
Pneumonia (all forms)	16	8	8
Other Respiratory Diseases.	6	5	1
Peptic Ulcer.	2	1	1
Appendicitis.	3	3	
Other Digestic Diseases.	15	5	10
Diarrhoea (under 2).	1		1
Nephritis.	8	5	3
Puerperal Sepsis.			
Other Maternal Diseases.			
Congenital causes.	5	4	1
Premature Birth.	8	7	1
Road Traffic Accidents.	2	2	0
Other Violent Causes.	10	8	2
Suicide.	4	2	2
All other causes.	38	22	16

Infantile Mortality.

During 1940, 22 deaths occurred amongst infants under 1 year. This gives a rate of 57 per 1,000 live births registered, compared with a rate of 49 for 1939, 79 for 1938 and 54 for 1937.

Deaths were attributed to the following causes.

Cause of death.	Total	Cent M F	North M F	N-East M F	South M F	S-East M F	West M F
Gastro-Enteritis.	1		1				
Prematurity.	8			4		3	1
Whooping Cough.	1			1			
Other Respiratory Diseases.	7	1	1	2		1 1	1
Diseases of the Newborn.) Congenital) Malformations.)	5	1	2				1 1
Totals.	22	2	3 1	6 1		4 1	1 3

Table showing comparison between figures for Coalville Urban District and the available corresponding (provisional) figures for England and Wales.

Birth rate, Death rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1940.

	Rate per 1,000 Civilian pop.		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 pop.								Rate per 1000 live births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Enteritis under 2	Total Deaths under 1.
England & Wales	14.6	0.55	14.3	0.00	-	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.06	0.32	4.6	55
Coalville U.D.	15.9	0.50	14.0	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.08	0.21	0.76	2.6	57
Coalville U.D. '39	16.8	0.58	10.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.12	0.16	9.7	49

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES.

Puerperal Sepsis. Others. Total.

England & Wales per 1000 total births. .52 1.64 2.16
 Coalville U.D. per 1000 total births. .00 0.00 0.00

Notifications. PUERPERAL INFECTION.

England & Wales per 1000 total births. 11.96
 Coalville U.D. per 1000 total births. 5.07

In order to make the death rate for the district strictly comparable with the crude death rate for the whole country, the death rate given above (14.0) should be multiplied by 1.07. The corrected death rate for the district is, therefore, 14.98.

I have to thank you, Mr. Chairman and Councillors, for your continued consideration and courtesy, and once more to record the unflinching assistance and co-operation of the Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

Your obedient Servant,

ANDREW HAMILTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

